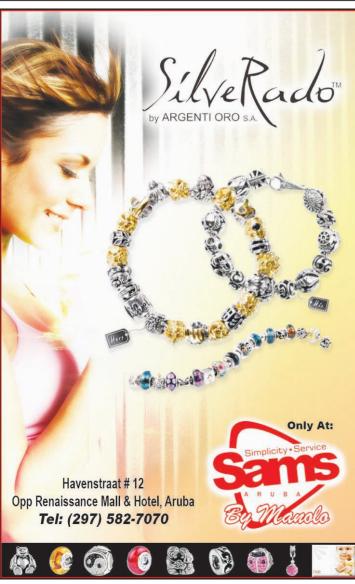
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SETAR N.V. celebrates International Telecommunications Day with family day for its employees











SETAR N.V., Aruba's telecommunication company, reunited once again for a day of fun and companionship in celebration of **International Telecommu**nication Day. This time the SETAR family got together with family members on the Palm island. Everyone, big and small, had an enjoyable day with their family, snorkeling, playing domino, basketball and sliding on the big slide of the Palm Island Water Park.

Fotos give an impression of the memorable event.





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BP: Mile-long tube sucking European Muslims criticize veil oil away from Gulf well ban plans

HAMMOND, Louisiana (AP) – In a major step toward containing a massive Gulf of Mexico oil leak, BP said a mile-long tube was funneling crude yesterday from a blown well to a tanker ship after three days of wrestling to get the stopgap measure into place on the seafloor.

The contraption was hooked up successfully and sucking oil from a pipe at the blown well yesterday afternoon after being hindered by several setbacks. Engineers remotely guiding robot submersibles had worked since

Friday to place the tube into a 21-inch pipe nearly a mile below the sea.

Kent Wells, BP's senior vice president for exploration and production, said during a news conference that the amount being drawn was gradually increasing, and it would take several days to measure it. Company spokesman Mark Proegler at the joint spill command center in Louisiana had initially said the tube was containing most of the oil coming from the pipe, which is contributing an estimated 85 percent of the crude in the spill.

VIENNA, Austria (AP) – Muslims who attended a conference in Austria's capital criticized European countries yesterday for considering the possibility of banning face-covering veils, saying it is counterproductive and regressive.

Veil bans are being considered in Belgium and France, and lawmakers in other European countries have also raised the issue.

The roughly 100 imams and Muslim religious advisers from 40 countries participating in the meeting in Vienna agreed that Islam doesn't make it a requirement for women to wear face veils and saw little

need to discuss it because of consensus on the matter, said Carla Amina Baghajati, a spokeswoman for the Islamic Religious Authority in Austria, which hosted the meeting.

"Nevertheless, we are critical that it comes to a ban," Baghajati said. "Why? Because it's counterproductive." She was among about 30 women taking part in the meeting.

An extensive draft resolution presented at the end of the two-day conference called for programs to promote the education of Muslim girls and women and said every mosque should have a female contact person for women's issues.

It also expressed concern about a Swiss referendum late last year to ban the construction of new minarets and stressed that the practicing of Islam encompasses the respect of people from other religions or who hold different world views

"Muslims don't want to be seen as a problem but rather as part of the solution for modern challenges," the document said

The laws proposing bans on

face-covering veils give the impression there is a need to restrict Muslims because there is "something dangerous" about them and that they don't respect women's rights and need to be taught, Baghajati said. This, she added, brings up the divisive "we" and "them" notion that Muslims in Europe are trying to overcome.

A discussion within the Muslim community has helped keep the number of women dressing this way in Europe to a minimum, she said. "This inner-Muslim discussion helps that we have very, very few women wearing these kind of clothes."

Famile Fatma Arslan, a Dutch lawyer and fellow conference participant, warned that the bans, if approved, could backfire.

"By creating a ban, you're not being preventive but you're being regressive," she said. "If you raise children and say 'this is something you shouldn't do,' my kid, or my kids, or my nephews are doing it."

Instead, Arslan added, the focus should be more on the empowerment and education of Muslim women.

NAACP backs Obama's Supreme Court nominee Kagan

WASHINGTON (AP) – The NAACP gave its backing Saturday to Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan, expressing confidence in President Barack Obama's pick after early hesitation that she might not be a forceful defender of civil rights.

The nation's oldest and largest civil rights group voted unanimously at a board meeting in Florida to endorse Kagan, in line to succeed retiring Justice John Paul Stevens. It was an early endorsement by a major interest group for Kagan, who is solicitor gen-

eral, the government's top lawyer at the Supreme Court.

The NAACP's president, Benjamin Jealous, said that the group initially was concerned because Kagan, who never served as a judge, had little direct evidence or a record that she would actively promote civil rights. Many were worried that she might have an overly expansive view of executive power at the expense of individual liberties, and the group also had hoped to see a black woman appointed to the high court.

The National Action Net-

work and its board of directors also endorsed her nomination. Rev. Al Sharpton, president of the organization, said Kagan "is worthy of the support of the civil rights community." Sharpton said she has shown balance and fairness throughout her career."

Kagan, 50, has received some support from conservative groups because of her efforts to reach across ideological divides, including the recruiting of conservative professors while she was Harvard Law School dean.

Models indicate Gulf spill may be in major current

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (A)P)— Researchers tracking the massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico say computer models show the black ooze may have already entered a major current flowing toward the Florida Keys, and are sending out a research vessel to learn more

William Hogarth, dean of

the University of South Florida's College of Marine Science, said yesterday that one model shows that the oil has already the loop current, which is the largest in the Gulf. The model is based on weather, ocean current and spill data from the U.S. Navy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,

among other sources.

Hogarth said a second model shows the oil is 3 miles from the current — still dangerously close.

The current flows in a looping pattern in the Gulf, through the area where the blown-out well is, east to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary

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Project Coordinator & Graphic Designer

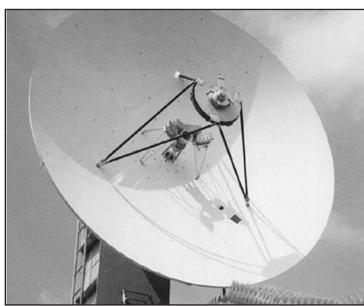
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Caya G. F. Betico Croes 111 - Tel: 588-9517 - Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com

Today is International Day of Communication and Information Society



ORANJESTAD -- Telecommunication is the transmission of messages over significant distances for the purpose of communication. In earlier times, telecommunications involved the use of visual signals, such as smoke, semaphore telegraphs, signal flags, and optical heliographs, or audio messages via coded drumbeats, lung-blown horns, or sent by loud whistles, for example.

In the modern age of electricity and electronics, telecommunications has typically involved the use of electric means such as the telegraph, the telephone, and the teletype, the use of microwave communications, the use of fiber optics and their associated electronics, and/or the use of the Internet. The first breakthrough into modern electrical telecommunications came with the development of the telegraph during the 1830s and 1840s. The use of these electrical means of communications exploded into use on all of the continents of the world during the 19th century, and these also connected the continents via cables on the floors of the

ocean. These three systems of communications all required the use of conducting metal

A revolution in wireless telecommunications began in the first decade of the 20th Century, with Guglielmo Marconi winning the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1909 for his pioneering developments in wireless radio communications.

Telecommunications play an important role in the world economy and the worldwide telecommunication industry's revenue was estimated to be \$3.85 trillion in 2008. The service revenue of the global telecommunications industry was estimated to be \$1.7 trillion in 2008, and is expected to touch \$2.7 trillion by 2013.

On Aruba there are an ample group of entities that provide good communication to the citizens.

They consist of:

• Telecommunication Infrastructure suppliers for i.e. landline telephone, mobile telephone and cable television;

• Telecommunication service suppliers such as telephone, internet and television;

• Telecommunication

appliances and devices suppliers;

• Companies that perform installation and maintenance of telecommunication appliances;

• Radio and television stations;

• All those responsible for the management and supervision of telecommunication;

• All telecommunication users, who are the most important of all.

The international union of telecommunication, ITU, every year chose a theme to commemorate this day. This year the theme is 'better city, better life with ICT's.

On its webpage http://www.itu.int/wtisd/2010/theme.html, readers can get an idea what the theme encloses. In a broad sense, ICT offers solution on different problems people encounter; it is almost impossible to imagine life in a city without ICT. ICT offers innovative ways to organize and manage cities in matters such as buildings infrastructure, traffic, efficient consuming, and the exchange of information.

There are a lot of big cities that doesn't have access to any mean of communication.

During a world summit on the informative society held in Geneva (2003) and Tunisia (2005) countries were asked to consider the establishment of a national mechanism to supply access to people to any mean of communication.

A heartfelt congratulations goes to all those who, in one way or the other, work in telecommunication or Information and Communication Technology (ICT), today, International Day of Communication and Information Society.

Tropical waves moving across the Atlantic

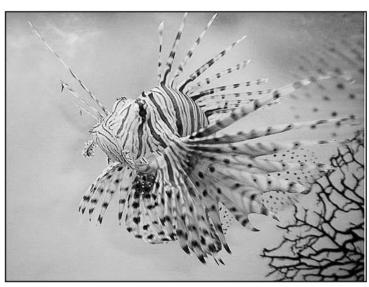
The Atlantic is starting to warm up for hurricane season. Some of this year's first strong tropical waves have formed and are now being plotted by the National Hurricane Center's forecasters.

Four tropical waves are moving across the Atlantic, according to the hurricane center's tropical weather discussion. There was no indication that the waves - low pressure areas that produce disorganized counter-clockwise winds – would gain enough momentum to form into a tropical depression.



Opening hours: 10:00a.m. - 6:00p.m.

Chefs lead Caribbean fight against invading lionfish



SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico – Lionfish. It's what's for dinner.

Fighting a losing battle against the invasive, candy-striped aquarium fish that is one of the Western Hemisphere's worst oceanic menaces, conservationists, tour operators and chefs are out to slow their spread the only way they know how: finding and catching them fast, and then turning them into batter-fried, roasted and grilled delectables.

The hope is that by sponsoring fishing tournaments, encouraging anglers to go after the slow-swimming species and marketing it to restaurants and diners, the region may stave off an already severe crisis.

"The goal is to eat it out of existence," said U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration outreach specialist Renata Lana, who is organizing a five-city tasting tour with celebrity chefs in the U.S. this summer as part of a campaign to get lionfish commercialized

The native of the Indian and Pacific oceans already has colonized large swaths of the Eastern Seaboard, the Caribbean and recently the Gulf of Mexico, and threatens to spread as far as South America.

Scientists say local predators such as sharks are put off

by the poisonous spines and have shown little appetite for lionfish, leaving the lionfish free to fatten themselves on smaller fish.

Preparing the fish for human consumption is simple.

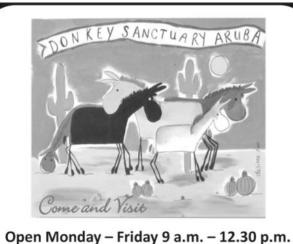
The lionfish has venom only in its spines. Once those are sliced away or burned off with a torch, the meaty fillets are ready for the frying pan.

Chefs say lionfish has a mild flavor that lends itself to everything from a basic fry to ceviche.

It can be dried into lionfish jerky or served raw on sticky rice as sushi.

Nicely portioned for dinner plates, the fillets marry well with assertive dashes of habanero, salt and lime juice, according to Julie Lightbourn, owner of Sip Sip restaurant on the Bahamas' Harbour Island.





& Saturday - Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Information: 593-2933 - 584-1063 - 569-8232

www.arubandonkey.org



8 feared dead in plane crash in Suriname

PARAMARIBO, Suriname (AP) – A small plane crashed in rough weather Saturday in the South American country of Suriname and all eight people aboard are feared dead, officials said.

The crash occurred in a thick forest about 200 miles (300 kilometers) southeast of the capital of Paramaribo, said Air Traffic Services Director Kenneth Dors.

The search for the captain, co-pilot and six passengers did not begin until esterday morning because it was dark and heavy rain was unrelenting, he said. Several nearby Amerindian communities said they would try to reach the site and provide help if needed, Dors

added

The twin-engine Antonov was operated by Surinamese carrier Blue Wing airlines.

The captain reported bad weather conditions shortly after taking off from a small airstrip near Godo Holo and was headed toward Paramaribo, Dors said.

Airline officials were not available, and the nationality of the crew and passengers was unclear. Blue Wing reported a similar crash two years ago involving the same model.

Nineteen people died in April 2008 when the plane crashed as it approached an airstrip in the Benzdorp region, near the French Guiana border.

Barbados premier heading to US for medical tests

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (AP) – The prime minister of Barbados says he is ill and will undergo medical tests in New York.

David Thompson says he has been suffering from stomach pains since early March.

His doctor told a news conference Friday that Thompson will be evaluated by a specialist at New York Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Richard Ishmael says the tests could last several weeks.

Ishmael says recent tests were inconclusive.

Thompson's Democratic Labor Party won the 2008 elections on the eastern Caribbean island of 285,000 people, which has thriving tourism and offshore financial services industries.

The 48-year old lawyer was born in Britain and has served in several Cabinet posts.

Moderate earthquake strikes Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) – An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 struck Puerto Rico early yesterday, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude-5.8 earthquake struck at 1:16 a.m. yesterday about four miles (six kilometers) from the small community of Espino on the western side of the U.S. Caribbean island and 63 miles (101 kilometers) from the capital, San Juan. It was recorded at a depth of 67 miles (113 kilometers), according to the USGS.

The quake cracked the concrete foundations of a few buildings in the towns of Florida, Lares, Moca, Utuado and Vega Baja, according to Puerto Rico's emergency management agency. Engineers were trying determine if other damaged homes were safe.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage. The West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center said it did not expect a tsunami, but local tsunamis triggered by underwater landslides were possible in coastal areas close to the epicenter.



A day in the country is always a surprise

As many times as I travel Aruba's countryside, I have to say I never know what I will see from one day to the next. Some things you know will be there; even if you live in town you can see some of the small creatures that live in your yard that are special to our island. I think it is a shame if people begin to take for granted being so close to nature, yet it seems to be happening more each day.

We have so many kinds of lizards, the iguana everyone know, but also many kinds of small lizards we generally refer to as lakadishi, even though they are many different colors and sizes. Also we have very tiny blue butterflies called "blauje" which most people hardly notice. When you look close you see they are very beautiful, and not really blue, they just seem that way when they flutter their wings so fastfunny, no?

People know we raise goats here and there is a Donkey Sanctuary, but both still run wild, and you never know when you will come upon a family. The goats are amazing, making their way through hill-sides and tough country, nothing stops them. Sometimes they are very curious, but if they have babies with them especially, they will run away fast. I have seen baby goats try to drink milk from their mothers even while on the run.

Our wild donkeys often will come right up to someone's yard and try to eat their plants or look for water. This year, we have had a very dry year, and the donkeys will gnaw at the cactus to relieve their thirst. If people can, it is good for them to leave a bucket of water for the donkeys when they show up in their neighborhood, this helps to preserve the cactus as well. When I take people on my tours I usually try to bring some old bananas, carrots or fruit for the donkeys and they will come right up to your car to eat. Sort of like a safari park without the lions and no fear of monkeys climbing on your car! It is free to enter and all





around us!

Editor's note: "Ban Kairo" is Papiamento for "let's go tripping in the cunucu!" Madi conducts her tours seven days a week in a single range rover type all terrain vehicle. She takes a max of nine passengers, and offers trips to the Natural Pool and other areas of Aruba that can only be reached with a sturdy 4x4 and, most impor-

tantly, a knowledgeable guide who know their way. She congenially shares her anecdotes and vast inventory of island factoids. Her tours are extremely reasonable



and customized to the wishes of her guests.

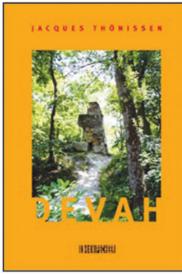
For more information and pick up at your resort, call 746-1397.

'Devah', a novel of magical fantasy



This coming Friday, the Aruba National Library y will present the novel, Devah, written by well-know Aruban author Mr. Jacques Thönissen. Mr. Thönissen invites everyone to be present at this important occasion.

Devah is about a recently graduated student of the art academy who finds a drawing of a girl on a flea market, signed by his father. When he confronts his father with the portrait, his father drops dead. To learn the identity of the girl, the main character goes on a search which conducts him to several Eastern-European countries. On those trips he receives guidance and inspiration of Sirene, a character from his imagination, who always accompanies him. Devah is a mixture of dream memory and fantasies that toys with present day reality. For those who have forgotten,



the book revives what the generation of magic realism encloses.

Thönissen came to Aruba in the early 60s. After a career in the education (Spanish teacher, Headmaster at Augustinus College in San Nicolas), he dedicated to the writing of books which resulted in three Aruba-Caribbean novels, 'Tranen om de ara,' 'Eilandzigeuner' and 'De roep van de troepiaal.'

Since 2000 he also writes books for children and the youth which have been translated in Papiamento.

Everyone is invited to a come this Friday at the Aruba National Library for the presentation of 'Devah.'

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Episcopal church ordains its 2nd openly gay bishop

LONG BEACH, Calif. – The Episcopal Church has consecrated a woman as its second openly gay bishop, seven years after stirring lingering

(Across the street of The Palm Beach Plaza Mall)



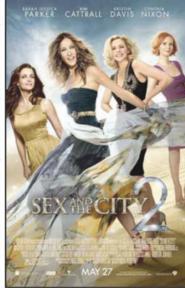
those who have forgotten, 'Devah.' for the presentation of openly gay bishop, seven years after stirring lingering years after stirring lingering those who have forgotten, 'Devah.'

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates – Troubled relationships are nothing new for "Sex and the City" story lines. But this one takes it to a different level: a possible snub from the Gulf city that plays the exotic backdrop for the movie sequel.

spotlight

Less than two weeks before the release of "Sex and
the City 2," it's unclear
whether the film will be
shown in oil-rich Abu Dhabi
— the scripted setting where
Carrie and her chic New York
posse swap their Jimmy
Choos for sandals and kick
some sand at Middle Eastern
traditions.

It's already been a rocky rapport. Emirates' officials turned down a request to film on location, forcing the crew to head to Morocco and recreate the Abu Dhabi setting. In 2008, the original "Sex and the City" film was not shown in the United Arab Emirates, where censors routinely remove scenes such as kissing,



nudity and expletives from movies and television shows.

And Shooting Stars, the UAE representatives for distributor Warner Bros., said Emirates officials have still not made a decision about bringing the film to cinemas in the Gulf state after its May 27 release date.

The National Media

Council, responsible for oversight of films and other media in the UAE, declined to comment.

The film exposes some of the complexities for Gulf cities trying to compete on the international stage. Abu Dhabi has aggressively marketed itself as an emerging hub for film studios and production companies. But there's a high sensitivity about plots perceived as too racy or politically charged about regional affairs.

The UAE's refusal to participate in the film reflects a desire to "control their brand," said Leila Hudson, graduate director of Near Eastern studies at the University of Arizona.

"To the Emiratis, that 'city' in the (movie) title sounds like it's referring — logically enough — to their Abu Dhabi rather than New York. That's a little too in your face," Hudson said.

controversy by ordaining a man to a similar post.

The Rev. Canon Mary Glasspool, of Baltimore, was ordained and consecrated on Saturday. It also makes her one of the first two female bishops in the Diocese of Los Angeles' 114-year history.

Just before the ceremony began, a man stood, shouted about the need to repent and held up a sign that read "Do not be deceived, homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God."

The Rev. Canon Diane M. Jardine Bruce, of San Clemente, Calif., was also ordained Saturday.

The two women were elected last December to serve as assistant bishops in the diocese's six-county territory but conservative Episcopalians had urged the church not to ordain Glasspool. The decision to do so highlights a

continued Episcopal commitment to accepting same-sex relationships despite enormous pressure from other Anglicans.

www.acquaruba.com info@homenetaruba.com

Bishop Jon Bruno, who gave a sermon at the ceremony, said he once opposed ordaining women, but now would be happily serving alongside two.

Bruno defended the church's inclusive policies.

"The world's transformed only if we turn to each and every one of our brothers and sisters and see the face of Christ superimposed on them," he told the audience. "The ones we disagree with most are the ones we're obligated to share our lives and teach the most."

The Episcopal Church, which is the Anglican body in the United States, caused turmoil in the church in 2003 by consecrating the first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire.

Breakaway Episcopal conservatives have formed a rival church, the Anglican Church in North America.

Several overseas Anglicans have been pressuring Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, spiritual leader of the world's 77 million Anglicans, to officially recognize the new conservative entity.

Science/ Tech.

Google is caught grabbing personal info off Wi-Fi networks



SAN FRANCISCO (AP) -Google Inc. has been vacuuming up fragments of peoonline activities broadcast over public Wi-Fi networks for the past four years, a breach of Web etiquette likely to raise more privacy worries about the Internet search leader.

Even Google was troubled by its behavior and issued a public apology Friday. The company said it only recently discovered the problem in response to an inquiry from German regulators.

"Maintaining people's trust is crucial to everything we do, and in this case we fell short," Alan Eustace, Google's top engineering executive, wrote in a blog post.

Google characterized its collection of snippets from emails and Web surfing done on public Wi-Fi networks as a mistake and said it has taken steps to avoid a recurrence. About 600 gigabytes of data was taken off of the Wi-Fi networks in more than 30 countries, including the U.S. Google plans to delete it all as soon as it gains clearance from government authorities.

None of the information has appeared in Google's search engine or other services, according to Eustace.

Nevertheless, Google's decision to hold on to the Wi-Fi data until it hears back from regulators shows the company realizes it could face legal repercussions. At the very least, company officials concede that snooping on Wi-Fi networks, however inadvertent, crossed an ethical

"We are acutely aware that we failed badly here," Eustace wrote.

Google's contrition may not be enough to allay growing concerns about whether the company can be trusted with the vast storehouse of personal information that it has gathered through its search engine, e-mail and other services.

Fears that Google is morphing into a real-life version of "Big Brother" has spurred previous privacy complaints, as well as pleas for more stringent regulation of the company.

Consumer Watchdog, a group that has become one of Google's most outspoken critics, renewed its call for a regulatory crackdown Friday.

"Once again, Google has demonstrated a lack of concern for privacy," said Consumer Watchdog's John Simpson. "Its computer engineers run amok, push the envelope and gather whatever data they can until their fingers are caught in the cookie jar."

The Wi-Fi data was sucked up while Google expanded a mapping feature called "Street View" that also has pressed privacy hot buttons. Street View provides photographs of neighborhoods taken by Google cameras that have sometimes captured people doing things they didn't want to be seen doing, or in places where they didn't want to be seen.

As it set out to photograph neighborhoods around the world, Google equipped its vehicles with antennas as well as cameras so it could create a database with the names of Wi-Fi networks and

the coding of Wi-Fi routers. What Google didn't know, Eustace said, is that some experimental software was being used in the Street View project, and that programming picked up the Web surfing on publicly accessible Wi-Fi networks if the company's vehicles were within range of the signal.

Google only gathered small bits of information because its vehicles were on the move and its tracking equipment switched channels five times a second.

The incident has prompted Google to abandon its effort to collect Wi-Fi network data. In an apparent show of its commitment to privacy, Google also said it will introduce a new option this week that will allow its users to encrypt searches on its Web site as an added protection against unauthorized snoop-

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Huge Brazil collection of snakes, spiders burned

SAO PAULO – (AP) A fire in Brazil has destroyed what may be the world's largest scientific collection of dead snakes, spiders and scorpi-

Members of the Instituto Butantan said the collection lost in Saturday's fire included nearly 80,000 specimens that were the main source for research on thousands of species.

"The entire collection was lost, the biggest collection of snakes in the world," Institute curator Francisco Franco told Globo TV and other local media. "It's a loss to humanity."

Many of the animals were used in the production of vaccines and other biopharmaceuticals, some derived from venom. Officials said the production of vaccines and other drugs will not be affected.

The collection of dead specimens allowed scientists to study the evolution of species and gave them information to help avert the extinction of some animals, institute director Otavio Mercadante said.

"Even if we could gather another collection with 100,000 specimens, the historic value would still be researcher Guedes said.

The institute's live animals were kept at a building adjacent to the one burned, and volunteers rushed to remove them in case the fire spread.

The dead specimens were preserved in flammable liquids, which contributed to the spread of the fire, firefighter Capt. Miguel Jodas told local media.

The fire did not hurt any humans or live animals.

Institute officials said they are already working on a plan to start rebuilding the collec-

Tibetans' Genes Help Them Thrive at High **Altitudes**



How are Tibetans able to thrive in the oxygen-thin high altitudes of the Tibet highlands when non-residents find the environment hard to endure? It's all in the genes, researchers say.

Thousands of years of natural selection have allowed Tibetan highlanders to evolve 10 unique oxygen-processing genes that help them avoid the sometimes life-threatening complications that can accompany high-altitude exposure, a new study has found.

The study is published online May 13 in ScienceExpress, and is the product of a cooperative effort launched by American and Chinese researchers from the University of Utah School of Medicine and Qinghai University Medical School.

The oxygen-deprived environs of high-altitude regions can give rise to severe lung and brain complications, the authors noted. Even professional mountaineers are at risk for experiencing "polycythemia, in which the body manufactures too many red blood cells in reaction to oxygen deprivation.

Swelling of the lungs and brain, along with high blood pressure of the lung vessels can trigger respiratory failure, which can be deadly. Yet the research team noted that Tibetan highlanders do not experience any such medical hardships.

To find out why, the investigators analyzed DNA samples from 31 Tibetan residents of a village located at 14,720 feet above sea level.

After comparing the villagers DNA with samples taken from people living in lower elevations nearby, the team was able to isolate 10 specific genes that were found only among the highelevation residents.

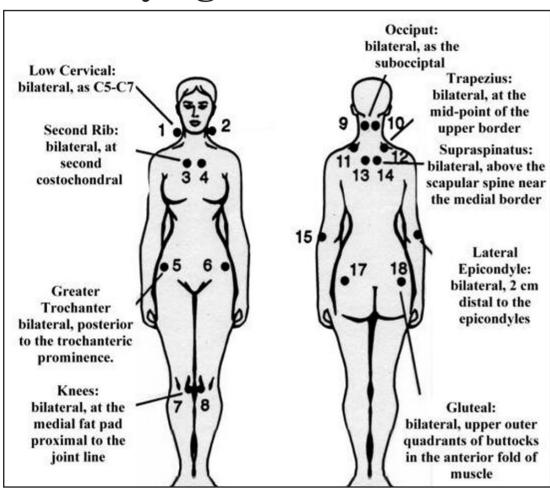
Although adaptation to high-altitude living has been observed in other regions including the Andes Mountains in South America and parts of Ethiopia, the evolved genes found among the Tibetan highlanders appear to be unique to them.

To date, the researchers have linked two of the 10 genes directly to blood-borne oxygen transportation. But they note that further study is needed, with an eye toward more genes that could play a role in highelevation protection.

wnats unique about Tibetans is they don't develop high red blood cells counts,' Dr. Josef T. Prchal, study coauthor and a hematologist and professor of internal medicine at the University of Utah, said in a news release. "If we can understand this. we can develop therapies for human disease."

HEALTH & LIVING

Fibromyalgia



What is fibromyalgia?

Fibromyalgia is widespread pain in the muscles and soft tissues above and below the waist and on both sides of the body. Fibromyalgia is a syndrome—a set of symptoms that happen together but do not have a known cause. In this syndrome, the nervous system (nerves, spinal cord, and brain) is not able to control what it feels, so ordinary feelings from your muscles, joints, and soft tissues are experienced as pain. People with fibromyalgia feel pain and/or tenderness even when there is no injury or inflam-

Fibromyalgia does not harm your muscles, joints, or organs. And there are many things you can do to control it. When it is not controlled, you may not have any energy. Or you may feel depressed or have trouble sleeping. These and other symptoms can be bad enough to cause problems with your work and home life. With treatment, most people with fibromyalgia are able to continue working and participating in daily activities. Some people change their work duties and lifestyle if their symptoms are severe.

What causes fibromyalgia?

Experts have theories about what may cause fibromyalgia. But there is not enough evidence to support any single cause. Some think

that people with fibromyalgia may have nerve cells that are too sensitive. Others think that chemicals in the brain (neurotransmitters) may be out of balance. Or it may be related to problems with the deep phase of sleep.

What are the symptoms?
The main symptom of fibromyalgia is pain in the muscles, soft tissues, back, or neck. Also certain spots on the body burt when you press

the body hurt when you press directly on them. Experts call these tender points. But you may also hear them called trigger points.

Fibromyalgia also causes

sleep problems and tiredness.
Less common symptoms include headaches, morning stiffness, trouble concentrating, and irritable bowel syndrome. As with many conditions that cause chronic pain, it is common for people with fibromyalgia to have anxiety and depression. These can make you feel worse.

Fibromyalgia is a longlasting (chronic) condition with no cure. Symptoms tend to come and go. You may have times when you hurt more, followed by times when symptoms happen less often, hurt less, or are absent (remissions).

Some people find that their symptoms are worse in cold and damp weather, during times of stress, or when they try to do too much.

How is fibromyalgia diagnosed?

Doctors can find out if you have fibromyalgia based on two things. One is widespread pain, which means the pain is on both sides of your body above and below the waist. The other is tenderness in at least 11 of 18 points when they are pressed. Your doctor will also take steps to be sure you don't have other conditions that cause pain, such as rheumatoid arthritis, polymyalgia rheumatica, systemic lupus erythematosus, or other autoimmune diseases

How is it treated?

You may be able to control your symptoms with regular exercise and by finding better ways to handle stress. Good sleep habits are very important too. If you have trouble sleeping, changes to your routine, schedule, and sleep surroundings can help. Counseling can help you cope with long-term (chronic) pain.

If your symptoms are troublesome, your doctor can prescribe medicines that help you feel better.

Symptoms of depression, such as a loss of interest in things you usually enjoy or changes in eating and sleeping habits, can often be successfully treated if you tell your doctor about them.

Some people with fibromyalgia also find complementary therapies helpful. These include acupuncture, massage, behavioral therapy, and relaxation techniques.



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Listening to Mozart won't make tour child smarter



For years, research showing a link between listening to Mozart and increased brain-power spurred parents to expose their tots to the great composer.

But now, a new Austrian review finds there's no evidence that listening to Mozart -- however glorious the music -- will do anything for anyone's cognitive powers.

In particular, the findings debunked the myth of improved spatial task perform-

The World Health
Organization
(WHO)
ranks Aruba's drinking
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Please drink the water

ance among Mozart listeners.

University of Vienna psychologists examined more than 40 studies and unpublished research that included more than 3,000 subjects. Their conclusion: nothing supports the idea that Mozart music improves what's known as spatial ability.

"I recommend listening to Mozart to everyone, but it will not meet expectations of boosting cognitive abilities," study author Jakob Pietschnig, a psychologist at the University of Vienna, said in a news release from the school.

The researchers report that they couldn't confirm the beneficial effects of listening to Mozart music, as suggested in a famous 1993 study published in Nature that focused on spatial abilities. That research led to a tremendous amount of interest in exposing babies and children to classical music, and businesses rushed to sell it to schools, day-care centers and parents.

Shopping Palm Beach Plaza











Palm Beach, Aruba

s a city northwest of LOranjestad, capital of Aruba, and is home to the high rise hotels and a new shopping district. The renowned two-mile-long strip known as Palm Beach is home to glamorous highrise hotels and dotted by water sports concessions, piers, beach bars, restaurants and shops. Calm waters make this a comfortable haven for swimmers and snorkelers. A walk along the coast at dawn or sunset is perfect for exercise and quiet reflection.

Multiple time-share ownership and full-time ownership condos have been or are being built in the area as well.

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Loyal friends of Aruba honored



Recently at the Divi Village Resort, Leon and Linda Rudmanl and Nancy Valentine were honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba. They have been visiting our island for 28 years.

This honorary title is for repeat guests coming here for 20 or more consecutive years, as a 'thank you' gesture for their love and loyalty to Aruba.

Aruba Tourism Authority



associate Ricardo Croes, during a small ceremony, handed them handsome certificates as a token of appreciation. Also present at the ceremony were Divi Village Resort G.M. Gerrith Griffith and Divi Village associate Hilda.

Photos show the happy honorees showing off their certificates accompanied by Divi Village Resort GM. Mr. Griffith.

Great deals to be found on fine and costume jewelry at Larry's



TAKT, GOLD

Sculpted key pendants

Black and white Majorca pearls



Australian Opal single dolphin

Tucked away on the Havenstraat in Oranjestad, just behind the Renaissance Mall, is a friendly little shop. Larry is the Aruban home of the cute and quirky Lauren G. Adams designer jewelry.

A team from THE MORN-ING NEWS went to take a look, and we were very impressed with the prices offered on Mallorca Pearls- "the affordable treasure" which have a luster and luminosity that make them a perfect gift at the right price.

We were also taken with an entire showcase full of a personal favorite, Australian opal jewelry; the fiery blue stones have a texture and drama that imparts a singular beauty. We noticed Larry had a very large selection of animal themed pieces, adorable and appealing.

Sales girls were particularly enthusiastic about the Lauren G. Adams designs; beautiful cloisonné charms, necklaces, bracelets and rings that are in-



Lauren G. Adams charms and ensembles



White and yellow gold

finitely affordable.

They also have sculpted key pendent collection, or construct a custom made charm bracelet both eye-catching and whimsical. Color coordinated collections and reasonable prices allow one to create an entire ensemble. The charming jewelry makes very nice accessories for today's fashionable black dress, adding an individual tropical touch to the somber color that is presently required evening wear.

Larry's has a large selection and great deals, so if you are shopping for a friend or yourself, their collection is definitely worth a look.



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- Bivouacs
 Pamphlets
- 12. Crane's relative 17. Deacons' stoles
- 19. Get back on 21. Love: Ital. 22. Children's game
- 24. Clefts
- 25. Era
- 26. Impetus
- 27. Town in Texas 29. Porter musical 31. River to the North
- 32. Weapon: Fr.
- 33. "Bus Stop" author 34. One on the house
- 35. Roman road 36. For shame!
- 37. Degraded 39. Lead-tin alloy
- 41. Indian mercenar 43. Kitchen virtuoso
- 46. Tire pressure tool 49. Liberate
- 53. Lambent
- 55. Actor Tamblyn
- 56. Past-due debt
- 57. Diverted

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 58. _____ best friend
 59. Friars
 60. So long
 62. Meistersinger Hans
 63. European bird
 65. Festivals
 66. Asterisk
 67. Gratis
 68. Engwise

- 68. Enemies
 69. Resigns from office
 70. Ideal
 72. Nee
 73. Sea cow

- 74. Feline sound 75. Pledger 77. Remainder 78. Small palace
- 80. Tibetan bear
- 82. Writer Bruce ____ 86. Repeatedly, poetically
- 87. School gps. 89. Engraved: abbr.

- 94. House: Sp. 96. Bulgar 97. College in East
- Orange 98. Most diluted
- 100. Most theatrical 102. Actress Wray
- 103. German state 104. Popular piano
- piece 107. Above

- 108. Nosy person 109. Deep red 110. Equals 111. French perfume city

- 112. Shabby

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DOWN

- 6. Thirty: Fr. 7. Clergyman
- Love: Fr.
- 9. Crocus bulb 10. Wine cask
- 11. Scoffed
- 12. Male deer
- 13. _-Romagna 14. NT book
- 15. Juice fruit
- 16. Required
- 18. Air: abbr.
- 20. British trolley 22. Treaty

- 22. Treaty
 23. Miss Prynne
 28. Burners
 30. Porgy's home
 32. Elder: Fr.
- 35. "There was not a
- penny ____... 36. Fruit 38. North wind

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- 40. Heel strip 41. Hedge on an issue 42. Island in the Firth of

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- 43. Crude 44. Carpal bone
- 45. Teach
 47. Fireplace part
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- 54. DDE's opponent
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- Appearance
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- 64. Fish bait 65. Army commander:
- abbr. 67. Bankroll
- 69. Mend

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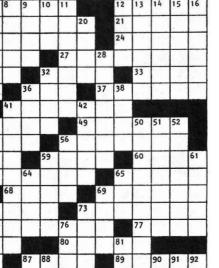
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- Beams
- 95. Requests 96. Dancers' movements 97. Theater attendant
- 99. Cotton fiber knots 100. Greek meeting
- place 101. Common
- abbreviation 105. Rocky peak 106. Toolbox



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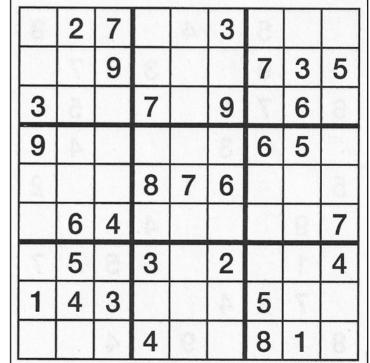
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column.

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'Iron Man 2' stays atop box office with \$53M

LOS ANGELES, California (AP) – Steel bested bows and arrows at the movies last weekend, with "Iron Man 2" fighting off the new release "Robin Hood" to stay at the top of the box office.

The superhero sequel starring Robert Downey Jr. took in \$53 million domestically to remain at No. 1, according to studio estimates yesterday.

The Paramount Pictures release has made over \$212 million in its first two weeks.

"Robin Hood," which features Russell Crowe teaming up with director Ridley Scott for the fifth time, debuted in the No. 2 spot with an estimated \$37.1 million. The Universal Pictures blockbuster, a sort of prequel to the Robin Hood legend, co-stars Cate Blanchett as Marian.

But "Robin Hood" had a huge opening internationally, making \$74 million outside North America for a total of \$111.1 million on the weekend. Nikki Rocco, Universal's president of domestic distribution, said the global figures reached beyond the studio's expectations.

Obama wants light on Wall Street's shadowy deals

WASHINGTON – Closer watch over Wall Street will help consumers make better informed choices about investing and shine light on the shadowy deals that caused the financial crisis, President Barack Obama said Saturday in pushing Congress to pass overhaul legislation.

In his weekly radio and Internet address, Obama said the bill also would curb predatory lending practices, prevent banks from taking on too much

risk and give shareholders more of a say.

"Put simply, Wall Street reform will bring greater security to folks on Main Street," the president said.

"My responsibility as president isn't just to help our economy rebound from this recession; it's to make sure an economic crisis like the one that helped trigger this recession never happens again," he said. "That's what Wall Street reform will help us do."

Greek leader considers action against US banks

ATHENS, Greece – Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou declared he is not ruling out taking legal action against U.S. investment banks for their role in creating the spiraling Greek debt crisis.

Both the Greek government and its citizens have blamed international banks for fanning the flames of the debt crisis with comments about Greece's likely default, actions that are causing the country's borrowing costs to soar.

"I wouldn't rule out that legal action might be a recourse. But we need to let due process (take its course) and then make our judgments once we get the results from the investigations," Papandreou said in a CNN interview broadcasted yesterday.

He did not elaborate further on any actions against U.S. banks.

Papandreou also said a parliamentary investigation will examine the rapid swelling of Greece's debt and international banking practices to examine whether the financial sector engaged in "fraud and lack of transparency."

The European Union and the International Monetary fund have approved a euro110

billion (\$136 billion) bailout package for Greece. In addition, European nations have created a euro750 billion (\$1 trillion) rescue package to protect the euro, the common currency of 16 European nations, including Greece.

The Greek leader also urged more regulation of the markets which, in his view, are now betting against the European governments that have poured billions into them since the global financial crisis began in 2008.

Some European governments plan to push for tighter regulation of hedge funds this week — a move opposed by Britain, home to the financial hub of London.

Papandreou also tried to counter criticism, expressed mainly in Germany, that Greeks are getting a free ride and rejected widespread international skepticism about Greece's ability to pay back its loans. Greek debt is scheduled to exceed 140 percent of its economic output in 2012.

"We are paying back the loans we are getting ... this saying that 'we are handing out money to Greece' is not true," he told the CNN show "Fareed Zakaria GPS." "It is very easy

to scapegoat Greece and Greece bashing very often gets entangled in regional politics."

He insisted his government has made the unpopular but necessary decision to implement austerity measures.

"We are ready to make the changes ... we have made our mistakes. We are living up to this responsibility. But at the same time, give us a chance," Papandreou said.

Still, another top German economist expressed doubts Sunday about Greece's ability to repay.

Deutsche Bank AG's Chief Executive Josef Ackermann created an uproar Thursday for mentioning the possibility that Greece might have to restructure its debt — but Dekabank's chief economist, Ulrich Kater, was quoted as agreeing with him yesterday in the German news website Handelsblatt.

"It will be very, very difficult for Greece to orderly repay its debt," Kater was quoted as saying, adding that Greece's new austerity measures and its lack of competitiveness were dooming the country's prospects for economic growth, making debt reduction difficult

US, Europe look to China for clean energy sales

BEIJING, China (AP) – U.S. leaders want China's clean energy boom to drive technology exports and are sending a sales mission to Beijing this week. But Beijing wants to create its own suppliers of wind, solar and other equipment and is limiting access to its market, setting up a new trade clash with Washington and Europe.

China passed the United

States last year as the biggest clean power market, stoking hopes for Western sales of wind turbines, solar cells and other gear. But U.S. and European companies find that while Beijing welcomes foreign technology, it wants manufacturing done here and knowhow shared with local partners. In the wind industry, foreign suppliers with factories in

China say they are shut out of major projects.

"China is very keen on being able to depend on themselves," said Frank Haugwitz, a renewable energy consultant in Beijing.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke says clean energy sales to China can help fulfill President Barack Obama's pledge to double U.S. exports over the next five years and create 2 million jobs. Locke is leading a group of 24 American suppliers to Beijing and Shanghai this week to drum up business.

Merkel: \$1 trillion rescue package only buys time

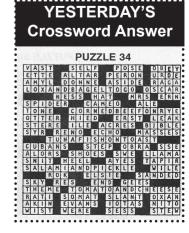
BERLIN, Germany (AP) — The euro750 billion (\$1 trillion) shock-and-awe rescue package to prevent the Greek debt crisis from spreading only bought eurozone countries more time, it didn't solve their underlying debt problems, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and a European Central Bank official said yesterday.

Market turmoil over rising levels of European government debt — sparked by Greece's immediate crisis — will only calm down if the 16 nations who share the euro cur-

rency reform their economies and reduce their deficits, the German leader and ECB chief economist Juergen Stark said in different forums.

"We bought time, not more than that," Stark was quoted as saying in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung paper, adding the euro was not in danger "but in a critical situation."

Merkel yesterday defended the loan package as the right step to stabilize the currency, but also acknowledged it was a stopgap measure.



Eyes flashing, I-fairy conducts wedding in Tokyo



I-Fairy, a four-foot tall seated robot with flashing eyes and plastic pigtails, wearing a wreath of flowers, directs a wedding ceremony for groom Tomohiro Shibata 42, and bride Satoko Inouye, 36, at a Tokyo restaurant

TOKYO, Japan (AP) – Almost everyone stood when the bride walked down the aisle in her white gown, but not the wedding conductor, because she was bolted to her chair.

The nuptials at this ceremony were led by "I-Fairy," a 4-foot (1.5-meter) tall seated robot with flashing eyes and plastic pigtails. The "i" in its name stands for intelligent information icon, and its design is meant to evoke a "lovely

fairy." Users simply record their own voice or use the textto-speech software to generate the robot's lines in English or Japanese. Motions can be generated through a simple editing suite or automatically by the software, which analyzes the speech and inserts naturalistic motions like head nods and arm gestures. By generating motions in real-time, the robot can be used as a stand-in during live presentations where a human speaks into a microphone off-stage while the robot moves automatically.

Yesterday's wedding was the first time a marriage had been led by the robot, according to manufacturer Kokoro Co.

"Please lift the bride's veil," the robot said in a tinny voice, waving its arms in the air as the newlyweds kissed in front of about 50 guests.

The wedding took place at a restaurant in Hibiya Park in central Tokyo, where the I-Fairy wore a wreath of flowers and directed a rooftop ceremony. Wires led out from beneath it to a black curtain a few feet meters away, where a man crouched and clicked commands into a computer.

Japan has one of the most advanced robotics industries in the world, with the government actively supporting the field for future growth. Industrial models in factories are now standard, but recently Japanese companies are making a push to inject robots into everyday life.

Honda makes a walking child-shaped robot, and other firms have developed them to entertain the elderly or play baseball. Kokoro, whose corporate goal is to "touch the hearts of the people," also makes giant dinosaur robots for exhibitions and lifelike android models that can smile and laugh. The company is a subsidiary of Sanrio Co., which owns the rights to Hello Kitty and other Japanese characters.

"This was a lot of fun. I think that Japanese have a strong sense that robots are our friends. Those in the robot industry mostly understand this, but people mainly want robots near them that serve some purpose," said bride Satoko Inoue, 36, who works at manufacturer Kokoro.

"It would be nice if the robot was a bit more clever, but she is very good at expressing herself," said new husband Tomohiro Shibata, 42, a professor of robotics at the Nara Institute of Science and Technology in central Japan.

The I-Fairy sells for about 6.3 million yen (\$68,000) and three are in use in Singapore, the U.S. and Japan, according to company spokeswoman Kayako Kido. It has 18 degrees of motion in its arms, and mainly repeats preprogrammed movements and sounds.

Muhammad cartoonist in hiding after arson attack

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP)

– A Swedish artist whose drawing of the Prophet Muhammad with a dogs body angered Muslims said yesterday he doesn't feel safe in his home at night, after a week of attacks against him.

Lars Vilks said he has started sleeping elsewhere since an attempted arson attack Friday against his home in Nyhamnslage, southern Sweden.

Earlier in the week, Vilks was attacked by a man as he gave a lecture at a university in central Sweden, and the fol-

lowing day his Web site appeared to have been targeted by hackers.

The artist has faced numerous threats over his 2007 sketch. Earlier this year, U.S. investigators said Vilks was the target of an alleged murder plot involving Colleen LaRose, an American woman who dubbed herself "Jihad Jane," and who now faces life in prison. She has pleaded not guilty.

Swedish police arrested a 21-year-old man late Saturday and a 19-year-old man yesterday on suspicion of the attempted arson attack. Earlier Saturday, they had found bottles filled with gasoline and minor fire damage to Vilks' home. Several windows at the artist's house had also been smashed. Vilks was not home during the attack.

Vilks drew his picture of Muhammad more than a year after 12 cartoons of the prophet in a Danish newspaper sparked furious protests in Muslim countries. Images of Muhammad, even favorable ones, are considered blasphemous by many Muslims.



Shuttle Atlantis arrives at space station



The Space Shuttle Atlantis flies over a mountainous region of the Earth before docking.



The Space Shuttle Atlantis approaches the International Space Station before the two crafts dock in this NASA TV May 16, 2010 frame grab. Earth is seen in the background

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) – The shuttle Atlantis arrived at the International Space Station yesterday amid a flurry of picture-taking intended to make up for a curtailed safety survey the day before.

Four of the six space station residents snapped hundreds of pictures as Atlantis made its final approach. The shuttle performed a slow backflip so all its surfaces could be photographed. An hour later, it docked flawlessly with the station, 220 miles above the South Pacific.

On Saturday, a snagged cable prevented the six shuttle astronauts from properly inspecting their ship. NASA or-

dered up extra pictures and, in fact, doubled the usual number of space station photographers.

The astronauts may try to free the cable during a space-walk this week.

"Thanks for the pictures. It's all about the pictures," shuttle pilot Dominic "Tony" Antonelli told the station crew.

"The perfect lighting, and you guys look marvelous," replied Japanese astronaut Soichi Noguchi, one of the photographers.

The photo shoot lasted just a few minutes against a breathtaking backdrop of the Portuguese coast, Spain, France and northern Italy.



The Road to 2010 FIFA World CUP

Trio cut from Dutch Bafana cruise against Thailand squad



Duch coach Bert van Marwijk

Holland coach Bert van Marwijk today trimmed his provisional FIFA World CupTM squad to 27 players after confirming Otman Bakkal, Wout Brama and David Mendes Da Silva would not travel to South Africa.

Van Marwijk made the decision ahead of a training camp in Austria. "I think the balance in the group is better

now," the coach said. Vurnon Anita survived the cull with Van Marwijk talking up the chances of the Ajax left-

"He is versatile, fast, aggressive and dares to attack," he said in De Telegraaf newspaper. He can play right-back as well for example. We have some problems in certain positions. (Giovanni) van Bronckhorst is not yet fit while (Khalid) Boulahrouz and (Edson) Braafheid have had little playing time and are lacking rhythm."

The party which travels to Austria will be missing Bayern Munich duo Arjen Robben and Mark van Bommel and Inter Milan's Wesley Sneijder with all three due to participate in next Saturday's Champions League final in Madrid.



South Africa equalled their best-ever margin of victory with a 4-0 victory over Thailand in a FIFA World CupTM warm-up game in Nelspruit yesterday.

Siphiwe Tshabalala curled in the opener from a 22ndminute free-kick which beat goalkeeper Kawin Thamasatchanan at his near post. Tshabalala turned provider for the second with his corner finding Bongani Khumalo, whose goalbound header was turned home by Katlego Mphela.

Mphela grabbed his second three minutes later after the impressive Tshabalala back-heeled the ball to Teko Modise, who played in Mphela to beat Kawin in fortuitous style. After Mphela

had squandered a number of opportunities to complete his hat-trick, substitute Siyabonga Nomvethe saw a goal ruled out for offside.

However, fellow replacement Bernard Parker struck with a low finish in stoppage time to ensure Bafana Bafana emulated the winning margin set against Chad in 2007.

Arsenal's Samir Nasri wants explanation over France snub

Though creative midfielder Samir Nasri has stated that he will accept the decision of national team coach Raymond Domenech to snub him from the France World Cup squad, the youngster wants to know exactly why he was omitted from the panel.

Domenech named a pool of 30 players as a preliminary squad, yet there were some eyebrows raised as the likes of Karim Benzema and Nasri were overlooked for uncapped players Mathieu Valbuena and Yann M'Vila, amongst others. Arsenal ace Nasri was as perplexed as anyone.

"It's difficult but there are the choices of coach," the 22-year-old explained to Canal+ show 'Les Specialistes Europe'. "I respect them, but I also want to know why, because I hear reproach for my behaviour now. I respect the decision of the coach."

Nasri also revealed that club boss Arsene Wenger has already offered him some advice. "Arsene Wenger called me and told me that things will remain the same between us. He advised me to take a good holiday and not to doubt [myself]," Nasri, who confessed he was "disappointed" with the situation, concluded.

Over his career to date, Nasri, whose club form has been strong, has claimed 15 caps.

Ballack concerned by injury

Germany captain Michael Ballack has admitted the ankle injury he suffered in Saturday's FA Cup final could threaten his FIFA World CupTM place

World CupTM place.

The 33-year-old limped from the Wembley Stadium pitch with an injury to his right ankle after 44 minutes of his Chelsea side's 1-0 win over Portsmouth, which gave the London club the league and cup double.

"Until I know what the MRI scan will reveal, I am naturally concerned," said Ballack.

Germany open their FIFA World Cup campaign against Australia in their first group stage game on 13 June and Ballack was due to have a scan on the ankle on Sunday.

Ballack left Wembley wearing a special protective cast on his ankle, but an x-ray at the stadium had already revealed he has not broken any

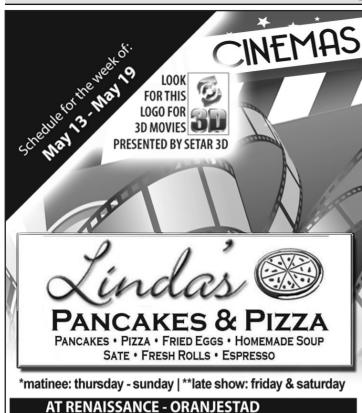






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ROBIN HOOD (ACT./ADV): IN 13TH CENTURY ENGLAND, ROBIN AND HIS BAND OF MARAUDERS CONFRONT CORRUPTION IN A LOCAL VILLAGE AND LEAD AN UPRISING AGAINST THE CROWN THAT WILL FOREVER ALTER THE BALANCE OF WORLD POWER. AND WHETHER THIEF OR HERO, ONE MAN FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS WILL BECOME AN ETERNAL SYMBOL OF FREEDOM FOR HIS PEOPLE.



Bryant says Lakers locked in on another title

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. --Kobe Bryant is among the fortunate few NBA players who know plenty about both winning a championship and successfully defending it.

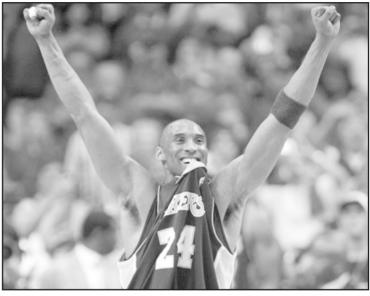
He thinks the Los Angeles Lakers spent most of the regular season just trying to avoid losing their title. In the past few weeks, the Lakers have been much more focused on winning another.

When Bryant stopped Saturday to ponder the difference between these two daunting tasks, he delivered an unusual amount of effusive praise for the way the Lakers have rebounded from a successful but trying regular season with three weeks of perhaps their best basketball in a year.

"They're not thinking about defending a title, they're thinking about winning one," Bryant said when asked how his greener teammates are responding to the stresses of repeating as champs.

With Bryant leading a balanced offense and a sturdy defensive effort, the Lakers have won six straight games heading into the Western Conference finals against the Phoenix Suns, who also have won six in a row.

After participating in a portion of Los Angeles' latest practice, Bryant praised the Lakers' increased aggressiveness and poise over the past few weeks. Coach Phil Jackson, no stranger to mind games and motivational



ploys, sees it all as a function of the mental toughness necessary to persevere deep into June while talented clubs like Cleveland, Dallas and Atlanta can't keep their heads together.

Judging by the Lakers' response to the pressure of being defending champions over the first two rounds, Bryant thinks they'll maintain that focus through the long week before the conference finals begin Monday night at Staples Center.

"It changes the sense of urgency that you play with," Bryant said. "You're playing with the confidence and the certain amount of attention you need to win something."

Bryant didn't participate in every drill in Saturday's workout while resting a cornucopia of minor injuries, including a gimpy ankle and an arthritic finger. Rest is an-

other key to the Lakers' success, given the accumulated toll of three straight seasons of deep playoff runs - along with the 2008 Olympic summer thrown into the mix for Bryant and Pau Gasol.

Fellow four-time NBA champ Derek Fisher echoed Bryant's sentiments, saying the Lakers have shifted into a playoff mode.

"There's been a little bit of an adjustment, at least by our play," Fisher said. "It looked like we were playing to protect something, as opposed to going to get something. I think since the playoffs started, we've been playing more to go get something than to keep from losing something."

He believes that high-concept idea translates into an overall aggressiveness in the Lakers' game - a willingness to take risks while still sticking within Jackson's basic framework. When Oklahoma City evened their first-round series at two games apiece, Los Angeles responded with a dominant 111-87 victory in Game 5, knocking back a talented young opponent.

The Lakers then never even allowed the Utah Jazz to think they could play with the champs, dispatching them twice in emphatic fashion at Staples Center.

Jackson believes such playoff poise usually must be learned through tough experience. Bryant and Fisher are the Lakers' only holdovers from the championship teams in 2000-02, and Jackson doesn't need to ask either veteran to lead.

CONFERENCE FINALS



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TUE, MAY 18

EASTERN CONF.
L.A. LAKERS VS. PHOENIX
MON, MAY 17
WED, MAY 19

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Horse racing is still lookin' for a Triple Crown

BALTIMORE (AP)—Bob Baffert was still smiling and laughing the morning after winning his first Triple Crown race in eight years.

As Preakness winner Lookin At Lucky prepared to walk onto a van leaving Pimlico on Sunday, Baffert petted the bay colt on the neck and told him, "Thank you so much."

Horse racing, however, is not quite so buoyant—the sport remains without a Triple Crown champion since 1978. And the winners of this year's first two Triple Crown races—Super Saver in the Kentucky Derby and Lookin At Lucky—are skipping the Belmont

It's another big letdown for a sport struggling to capture wide interest outside the major races. Its two biggest stars are Rachel Alexandra and Zenyatta, and the leading ladies have yet to meet on the track.

"Thank God for Zenyatta and Rachel," Hall of Fame trainer D. Wayne Lukas said. "They're keeping the interest prefty good."

pretty good."

In 1978, Affirmed swept the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont to become the 11th Triple Crown winner. Since then, 11 horses have won the first two legs before being shut out in the Belmont, most recently Big Brown in 2008.

Super Saver was the only horse in position this year for a Triple try after winning the Derby. His usually low-key jockey Calvin Borel made a rare boast that the colt would sweep the grueling five-week Triple Crown series, but it fell flat in the Preakness. Super Saver faded to sixth as the favorite on Saturday after

pressing the early pace.

"We would have loved to have come here and win the Preakness and go to the Belmont with a chance to win the Triple Crown," trainer Todd Pletcher said. "That would be the ultimate challenge."

Super Saver is still going to New York, but only to return to his stall at Belmont Park. He won't run in the 1 1/2 -mile Triple Crown finale on June 5, with Pletcher planning to give the colt a rest. His ultimate target is the Breeders' Cup Classic at Churchill Downs in November.

Baffert said Lookin At Lucky will also take a pass on the Belmont and return to Southern California to freshen up. His next start may be the Haskell Invitational at Monmouth on Aug. 1.



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Nadal bests arch-rival Federer in Madrid final

MADRID - After a year in which tennis was deprived of seeing one of its great rivalries played out on court, Rafa Nadal reasserted his dominance over Roger Federer by besting the Swiss 6-4 7-6 to win the Madrid Open yesterday.

Federer beat Nadal in last year's final of the clay Masters Series event before going on to claim the French Open and Wimbledon crowns and snatching back the number one ranking.

The eagerly-anticipated rematch in a packed and rowdy Magic Box arena graced by Spanish Queen Sofia was their first meeting

since the 2009 title match and sets Nadal up for a run at regaining his Roland Garros crown when the grand slam starts next Sunday.

It was the Spaniard's 14th win over Federer in 21 matches, and his 10th in 12 on clay, and gives the 23-year-old a record 18th Masters Series title, surpassing Andre Agassi.

He also becomes the first player to win all three Masters events on the red dust in one season after triumphs last month at Monte Carlo and Rome. He will regain number two in the rankings when





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